



Hosted by:



NEGÓCIOS ESTRANGEIROS
FOREIGN AFFAIRS

REPRESENTAÇÃO PERMANENTE DE PORTUGAL
JUNTO DA UNIÃO EUROPEIA
PORTUGUESE PERMANENT REPRESENTATION
TO THE EUROPEAN UNION

SPEAKERS' BIOGRAPHIES



Nuno Brito

Nuno Filipe Alves Salvador e Brito is a Portuguese diplomat. Currently he is the ambassador at the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the European Union. He graduated in Law in 1984 from the University of Lisbon. Afterwards he joined the Portuguese diplomatic service, serving in the US Department and later worked at the Portuguese Embassy in Washington as Secretary of Embassy.

His experience also includes service in the cabinet of the Minister of Foreign Affairs (1993), Chief of the Cabinet of the Secretary of Defense (1995), Deputy Permanent Representative of Portugal at the United Nations (1999), Principal Diplomatic Advisor to the Prime Minister (2005) and Ambassador of Portugal to the United States of America (2011).





Mervi Sarimo

Mervi Sarimo (LL.M.) works as a Ministerial Adviser at the Ministry of Justice, Department of Criminal Policy and Criminal Law. Since 2007, she has been responsible for developing the position of crime victims. Before moving into the area of victims' rights, she had a long career at the ministerial level in prison administration, communication and crime prevention.

In recent years, the focus of her work has been on the implementation of the Victims' Rights Directive. She was one of the secretaries in the Commission for Victim Policy, preparing a Finnish national Victims Strategy especially for funding victim support services. She was in charge of drafting the bill on victim surcharge, a new financing model of victim support services, that entered into force in 2016.

Ms. Sarimo has lead several projects and chaired multi-sectoral working groups to develop good victim-sensitive practices and victim-oriented information activities. She actively collaborates on victim matters both nationally and

	<p>on the EU-level. She represents the Finnish Ministry of Justice in the European Network on Victim's Rights (ENVR). She is an expert member of the Management Board of Victim Support Finland.</p>
	<p>Maite Pagazaurtundúa</p> <p>Maite Pagazaurtundúa is a Spanish politician, activist and writer. She is currently a Member of the European Parliament, spokesperson of Unión Progreso y Democracia in the European Parliament, and Vice-Chair of LIBE Committee.</p>
	<p>João Lázaro</p> <p>João Lázaro is the Executive President of the Portuguese Victim Support Association (APAV) and President of Victim Support Europe. With a degree in Law and a postgraduate degree in Victim-Aggressive Mediation and Restorative Justice, he also practices law. João has collaborated with APAV since 1995, having served as Secretary-General until 2007, when he became Executive Director. He also held important positions in several renowned national associations and was a professor in different criminology courses at distinguished Portuguese Universities. Moreover, he collaborated as an expert for the European Commission's Directorate-General for Justice and Home Affairs.</p> <p>Over the years, he has been a speaker at conferences on issues related to the rights of victims of crime and victim support services and has also published several articles in the area of restorative justice and victimization.</p>



Helgard van Hüllen

Helgard van Hüllen is Vice President of Victim Support Europe and Deputy National Chair of Weisser Ring Germany, where she is also a Member of the Advisory Board for Education and Training. Dr. van Hüllen is also head of Weisser Ring's branch in Bad Tölz/Wolfratshausen in Bavaria and has over 20 years of experience in delivering support for victims and running victim support organisations.

Dr. Helgard van Hüllen began working as a volunteer with Weisser Ring in 1993 and became a member of the board in 1998.



Levent Altan

Levent Altan is Executive Director at Victim Support Europe since November 2014. Before joining Victim Support Europe, he worked as Principal Legal Advisor at Milieu Ltd, a multi-disciplinary consultancy, where he led a team running various multi-country projects on justice and home affairs. He worked twice for the European Commission (DG Justice) as a national expert. During that time he was responsible for drafting and negotiating the EU Directive establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime. Prior to this, Levent had been working for around 10 years as a UK civil servant in the Ministry of Justice, the Home Office and the Cabinet Office.



Joanna Goodey

Joanna Goodey works as head of department at the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights. She studied criminology, as well as human geography. From the mid-1990s she held lectureships in criminology and criminal justice, first in the Law Faculty at the University of Sheffield and subsequently at the University of Leeds. She was a research fellow for two years at the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, and has been a consultant to the UN International Narcotics Control Board. She was also a regular study fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Foreign and International Criminal Law in Freiburg. She published various academic books and journal articles in areas of her expertise which includes, among others, victims of crime, hate crime and trafficking in human beings.



Aleksandra Ivanković

Aleksandra Ivanković is Deputy Director of Victim Support Europe since 2018. Prior to that, she worked as Project Manager for Victim Support Europe. She is a widely respected human rights lawyer. She has supported several international organisations, governments and NGOs and has developed her capacities in this field of rights of women and persons with disabilities, linking her work with some key human rights agencies and procedures. Before joining VSE, Aleksandra has worked at the European Court of Human Rights, litigated on behalf of victims with disabilities and managed several European human rights projects.



Christian D'Cunha

Christian is the head of the Private Office of the European Data Protection Supervisor, advising on EU legal and policy developments and strategy. He has led the project on strengthening the enforcement of privacy, competition and consumer, including the setting up the Digital Clearinghouse as the first such cross-sectoral forum for regulators. He has been developing the concept of a new digital ethics alongside exploring geopolitical aspects of rights and technology, as well as the challenges of massive use of data for political purposes. In previous roles he worked for the Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales and the Chairman of the UK Labour Party.



Katarzyna Janicka-Pawlowska

Katarzyna Janicka-Pawlowska, who was born in Poland, studied law in Warsaw, Cambridge, Bruges and Orléans and is now heading the Victims' Rights Team in DG Justice, European Commission. Katarzyna is leading in DG Justice on victims' rights policy, including enforcement of the EU rules, policy development and mainstreaming of the victims' rights policy. In addition, in November 2017 Katarzyna has been assigned to support and advice Special Adviser to President Juncker on compensation to victims of crime – Joëlle Milquet. Besides, she is contributing to the Brexit negotiations in the area of judicial cooperation in criminal matters.

She joined the European Commission in 2002 and since then has contributed to the enlargement of the European Union, completion of the single market, including digital single market, economic relation between the Union and third countries, the EU transparency and open data policy, non-discrimination and EU criminal law.



Tobias Körtner

Tobias Körtner is an Austrian clinical psychologist and psycho-social victim advocate. He is a member of Victim Support Europe. In Vienna, he is leading a team at the national victim support organisation of Austria (Weisser Ring Austria). In this role, he is responsible for leading and coordinating the victim support teams of Austria as well as their victim emergency hotline. He is also a representative of Weisser Ring Austria at Radicalisation Awareness Network. Due to his profession he has a broad knowledge of the needs of victims, as well as challenges and demands in a criminal process and is continually working on strengthen the position of victims' rights in Austria and whole Europe.



Melanie Maria

Melanie Maria is a performance artist director/ choreographer and survivor ambassador-domestic violence. She was born in 1993 in Haarlem, The Netherlands. For almost a year and a half, Melanie is out of her abusive relationship. In this past year and a half, she experienced a lot of support by talking freely and being open with doctors, with social workers, with various experts and specialists from Moviera (Victim Support Domestic Violence, The Netherlands).



Antony Pemberton

Antony Pemberton was born in London, UK and is now a Professor of Restorative Justice at KU Leuven and Professor of Victimology at Tilburg University in the Netherlands. His research is a wide-ranging attempt to gain further insight into victimological perspectives on justice. In doing so he draws on a variety of source disciplines, including political science, social and moral psychology, criminology, (legal) philosophy and criminal law. He has published multiple articles, books and book chapters on the subject of victimology. Moreover, as an adviser to the EU, he played a key role in the development of the EU-directive on victims' rights.



Livija Plancic

Livija Plancic is an Executive Board Member of Victim Support Europe. She worked at the Split- Dalmation county Police Department. Encouraged by her professional experiences in relation with the victims' rights as well as her long-term engagement to marginalized groups in society she founded a national victim support organisation in Croatia (Bijeli Krug) in 2011, which is the only NGO in the Dalmatian area whose primary mission is victim help. She also works on a national level on the mission to improve Croatian victim support system, suggesting ways to develop according to the European laws and European practice working with victims.



Ruth Shrimpling

Ruth Shrimpling is a Policy Officer at VSE since 2018. She has an academic background in Law, specialising in the rights of minorities and immigration and asylum law.

As Policy Officer, Ruth is responsible for supporting the development of policy guidance, recommendations and expert advice on victims' rights, needs and services. She also coordinates work on cross-border crime issues, professional training and VSE membership.

Prior to joining VSE, Ruth campaigned for the universal right to healthcare on behalf of Médecins du Monde, where she also spent four years working on the frontline with the most excluded members of our society.



Cristina Fabre Rosell

Gender-based Violence Officer at the European Institute for Gender Equality (December 2018-currently).
Seconded National Expert in the Gender-based Violence Programme at EIGE in 2013-2014 and 2017.

Head of Unit Observatory against Domestic and Gender-based Violence, Spanish General Council for the Judiciary (2003-2018) and member of the Equal Rights Commission.

Gender consultant for the International and Ibero-American Foundation for Administration and Public Policies. Project consultant in establishing a Gender-based Violence Measurement Framework in Central America and in Victims' Rights in Turkey.

Bachelor of Social and Cultural Anthropology and in Educational Sciences. Post-graduated specialization on Applied Social Research and Data Analyst.